

REMARKS

The above amendment with the following remarks is submitted to be fully responsive to the Office Action of September 15, 2006. Reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment and the allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 were pending in the present application. Claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20, and 26 are independent claims.

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kujirai (U.S. 2006/0119892). The Examiner states that "Kujirai discloses a system (Fig 1) comprising: an access code system that embeds at least one access code in a job stream, each embedded code associated with at least one device feature; and a job transmission system that transmits the job stream to a device (page 1, paragraphs 0007-0008 and page 3 paragraph 0038)." The Examiner further states that "the user assigned password, which is embedded in or appended to the print job information and transmitted in the job stream, [is] equivalent to an access code. The examiner notes that this access code is associated with the printer (device) features as depicted in Figure 7 (page 1, paragraphs 0007-0008 and page 3 paragraph 0038)." Applicants respectfully disagree.

In independent claim 1, Applicants recite "each embedded code permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of the device". Similarly, independent claims 6 and 10 also recite an embedded access code. In independent claim 14, Applicants recite "identifying each embedded access code that matches a stored access code, each stored access code permitting access to a subset of device features but not to other features of the device". Similarly, independent claims 20 and 26 also recite a stored access code. This access code defines the permissions that a user has for a particular printer device, such as duplex printing, color printing, etc. (see, e.g., ¶ [0025] and Fig. 1).

Applicants respectfully submit that Kujirai does not teach an access code permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of the device, as is disclosed in independent claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20, and 26. Instead, Kujirai teaches a password that a user chooses, in order to disallow other users from viewing or

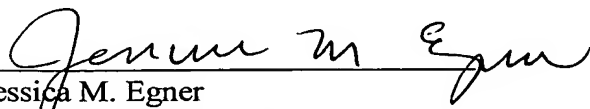
printing his particular document (p. 1, ¶¶ [0007]-[0008] and p. 3, ¶ [0038]). This password is different than the access code of the present invention, in that the password is selected by a user and is used only to preserve privacy at a printer by requiring a password before a document is printed or viewed at the printer. After a document has been sent to a printer, the document will only be printed or viewed when the user enters the password at the printer.

By contrast, the access code of the present invention does not allow or disallow a document to be printed or viewed, but instead controls the permissions that a user has at a particular printer, including features such as duplex printing, color printing, etc. Because Kujirai does not teach each and every limitation of independent claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20, and 26, specifically, an access code permitting access to a subset of device features, but not to other device features of the device, Applicants respectfully submit that Kujirai does not anticipate claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20, and 26.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20, and 26. Since claims 2-5, 7-9, 11-13, 15-19, 21-25, and 27-31 depend from and contain the limitations of independent claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20, and 26, respectively, they are distinguishable over the cited reference and patentable in the same manner as claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 20, and 26.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. However, if any issue remains after considering this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution and work out any such issue by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,


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